CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 10, No. 40 TORONTO, OCTOBER 3, 1945 $2.00 Per Annum

10th for 20th Century Theatres

RAOUL AUERBACH
General Manager of
Twinex Century Theatres
Corporation Limited

Representative Gathering At Toronto Celebration

Climaxing an evening that was thoroughly enjoyed by some 250 guests of Twentieth Century Theatres who dined, listened or spoke, John J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corporation, reiterated the intention of the Canadian Motion Picture Industry to aid in every possible way the attainment of a prosperous post-war Canada.

The dinner highlighted the two-day convention of the company and some 50 managers were present.

"Much has been said about the expansion of our business in years to come," said Fitzgibbons, who is chairman of the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee. "That must come with the development and improvement of our country. I feel sure that we of the motion picture industry will do our best

(Continued on Page 3)

NAT TAYLOR
President of
Twinex Century Theatres
Corporation Limited

Ginsler Joins PRC Sales Staff

Harry Ginsler, former exhibitor and well known in Ontario film circles, has joined the Toronto branch of Producers Releasing Corporation Limited as a field representative.

Ginsler formerly operated theatres in Toronto and Iroquois Falls, Ontario. He has also been a salesman for the Monogram and Peerless film exchanges in Toronto.

Harry will soon be calling on all theatre accounts in Ontario, it is announced.

He starts immediately.

Blumenstock in Einfeld's Spot

Promotion of Mort Blumenstock to director of publicity and advertising for Warner Brothers Pictures, replacing Charles Einfeld, resigned, has been announced by Harry M. and Jack L. Warner, chief executives of the company.

(Continued on Page 7)

IA in Saskatoon Absorbs Rival

Absorption of the projectionists' union in Saskatoon, an affiliate of the Canadian Congress of Labor, into Local 300, IATSE, has been announced by William P. Covert, Canadian general organizer, and Wilfred Spicer, president. Canadian Congress of

(Continued on Page 10)

Dominion '44 Gross Shows Little Gain

Compared with the marked expansion which characterized motion picture theatre attendance and receipts from 1939 to 1943, results now available for 1944 show but slight change from those of the preceding year. There were 1,298 theatres operating in Canada last year and these had 208,167,180 paid admissions. Box office receipts exclusive of amusement taxes amounted to $53,173,325 while Dominion and provincial amusement taxes collected at motion picture theatres amounted to $13,555,730. In addition, the 131 itinerant exhibitors who operated in 8 provinces (New Brunswick reported no itinerant operators) had receipts of $337,225, collected $67,767 in Dominion and provincial amusement taxes, and reported admissions numbering 1,422,412. In-

(Continued on Page 18)

Inspectors in Mont'l For 16 Mm. Talk

O. J. Silverthorne, Ontario; S. A. Doane, Nova Scotia; Frank Owens, New Brunswick, and the Quebec theatre inspection chief met in Montreal last week to discuss safety regulations for 16 mm. places of exhibition and other matters of importance in that field.

Upon Silverthorne's return a delegation of 16 mm. men, led by Col. John A. Cooper, met with the Ontario branch head for discussions.

Falconer is NFB Chief in Ontario

Staff changes in the Toronto office of the National Film Board have resulted in the transfer of Noel Bates, Ontario supervisor of the NFB, to the head office of the board in Ottawa and the assumption of Bates' duties in Toronto by Colin Falconer, who

(Continued on Page 15)

Hanifen, NS Vet, Retires at 80

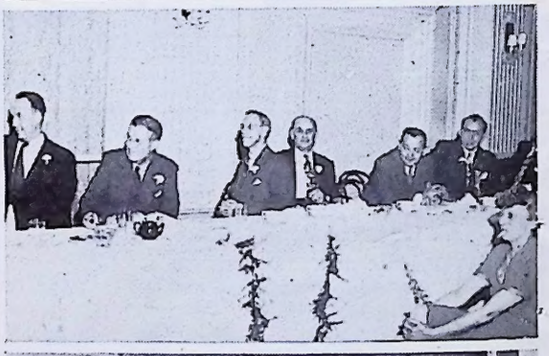
Word comes from Halifax that Patrick J. Hanifen, ending a career in the business and professional sides of the theatre that totalled 60 years, has retired. Dean of Maritime showmen, he is now 80 and when he decided recently to accept no further

(Continued on Page 10)

SINGLY OR AS A COMBINATION BILL THEY ARE GROSSING DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR WITH THE BEST CURRENT PRODUCT
CLAUDETTE COLBERT in 'IMITATION OF LIFE'
DATE IT EARLY!
Empire-UNIVERSAL Films Ltd.
BING CROSBY in 'EAST SIDE OF HEAVEN'

WELCOME
TWENTIETH CENTURY THEATRES

TWENTIETH CENTURY THEATRES
20th CENTURY



WELCOME

Description of Photos on Page 2

FIRST ROW DOWN—(1) Nat Taylor, president of Twentieth Century Theatres; Myer Axler; Raoul Auerbach, general manager. Taylor and Auerbach are shown receiving office radios presented by Axler in behalf of company managers and staff.

(2—sitting) Paul Maynard, Alliance; Clair Appel, Odeon; Frank Vaughan, Empire-Universal; Harvey Harnick, Columbia; Frank Fisher, Odeon; Harry Painter, Empire-Universal.

(3) J. J. Fitzgibbons; Harry Mandell, comptroller of Twentieth Century Theatres speaking; Hye Bossin, who acted as toastmaster; Haskell Masters, Warner Brothers; Raoul Auerbach; Tom Bragg, vice-president of Odeon Theatres.

(4) Mandell, Sam Sternberg, B & F; Doug Rosen, United Artists; Joe Cohen; Col. John A. Cooper, chairman of 16 Mm. Association; Charlie Mavety; Robert Mackerrow, Toronto Carpet Co.; Norman Robertson, K.C., Famous Players.

(5) Barney Fox, Twentieth Century Theatres; Ben Geldsaler, Famous Players; Jule Allen, Premier Operating; Robertson; Joseph Singer, K.C.

(6) Some Twentieth Centurites — Bill Cupples, Al Hope, Mel Jolley, Preston Salter, Charlie Greenwood, Ralph Tiede, Tom Mascaro, Lloyd Mills (PRC). Behind Tiede is A. H. Weaver, manager of Dundas Square branch of Imperial Bank.

SECOND ROW DOWN—(1) Nat Taylor welcomes the guests.

(2) Nat Taylor; the Hon. Leslie M. Frost, K.C., treasurer of Ontario; John J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players.

(3) Fitzgibbons; Frost addressing gathering; Bossin; Masters.

(4) Ray Lewis, editor of the Canadian Moving Picture Digest, and Hye Bossin, editor of the Canadian Film Weekly.

THIRD ROW DOWN—(1) Ben Ulster; Sam Pearlman, Warner Brothers; Jules Wolfe, Famous Players; Charles Dentlebeck, Famous Players; Charles Bochner, Canadian Theatre Chair Co.

(2) Fox; Abe Sprachman of Kaplan &...; Harry Soloman, Firestone Enterprises; Harold Kaplan of ... & Sprachman, theatre architects; Col. Cooper; Jake Smith: Joe Cohen; Sam Firestone.

(3—clockwise from end figure) Jim Nairn, Famous Players; Frank Kershaw, General Theatres Supply; Jack Chisholm, Associated Screen News; Dan Krendel, Famous Players; Mannie Swadron, Twentieth Century Theatres; Al Troyer, Famous Players; Angelo Stevens, Twentieth Century.

(4) R. W. Bolstad, vice-president, Famous Players; Bragg; the Hon. J. Earl Lawson, K.C.; Arch. H. Jolley, Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario; Morris Stein, Famous Players; M. L. Axler; Larry Bearg, Famous Players and (in front) Min Habick, Twentieth Century.

(5—front row) Sydney Samson, 20th-Fox; O. J. Silverthorne, chief censor of Ontario; Taylor, Bragg, Robertson.

(6) Len Herberts, Twentieth Century Theatres; Dorothy Wilson, Regal; Izzy Allen, Eagle-Lion-Mono; Hy Goldin, Dominion Sound; Dentlebeck.

Photos are by Alan Walker, 16 South Drive, Toronto, and prints may be received via mail by writing him and stipulating row and number as described above. Prints are 50 cents each and cash must be enclosed.

Landis, Gargan Star

Carole Landis will play the female lead opposite William Gargan in 20th-Fox's "Precinct 33."

20th Cent'y Theatres' Hits First Decade

(Continued from Page 1)

in this great effort and prove to all that our business can join in a great common cause and pull its share of the load."

Fitzgibbons was the last in a battery of distinguished speakers from inside and outside the industry who were guests of Twentieth Century Theatres at the dinner, which took place in the Crystal Ballroom, King Edward Hotel, Toronto, on September 24, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the founding of the company by Nat Taylor and Raoul Auerbach, president and general manager respectively of the 54-theatre circuit.

Conversion and future prosperity could only be accomplished by joining with other Canadian industries, he said, for the motion picture industry was but an integral part of a national economy.

Following the conclusion of Fitzgibbons' remarks, Myer Axler, in behalf of the head office and managerial staff of Twentieth Century Theatres, presented both Nat Taylor and Raoul Auerbach with office radios bearing a plate which described the occasion.

Taylor Welcomes Guests

After proposing a toast to the King, Nat Taylor, president of Twentieth Theatres welcomed the guests. He recounted the early experiences and difficulties of Auerbach and himself and paid tribute to companies and individuals who had, through cooperation and kindness during the years of development, assisted in their good fortune.

Taylor paid particular tribute to the exchange men, many of whom he characterized as his personal friends, and thanked them for their understanding and help in the first years. He was especially grateful to those who had been his business partners until recently, calling attention to the vital role they played and the amity which had marked their dissociation. The present staff also won his thanks.

In telling of the beginning days he spoke warmly of Charlie Stephenson, manager of his first theatre, which was owned in partnership with Fred Brown. The theatre was the College, Kitchener, now the Century. Stephenson, absent through illness, is today in charge of the company's advertising.

Raoul Auerbach maintained the spirit of reminiscence, proffering his personal appreciation and giving a special nod to the Hon. J. Earl Lawson, K.C., now a director of Odeon Theatres and Empire-Universal, who had been a one-time associate.

Upon withdrawing Taylor called on Hye Bossin, editor of the Canadian Film Weekly, to act as toastmaster and introduce the speakers who were to follow.

Frost, Bragg Speak

A better understanding of mutual problems would arise if various representatives of sections of the industry, along with those of competitive companies, would meet with some regularity for an exchange of ideas, Tom J. Bragg, vice-president of Odeon Theatres, told the gathering. Bragg, who was the senior officer of Odeon in the city in the absence of Paul Nathanson, brought the congratulations of his associates.

The Hon. Leslie M. Frost, Provincial treasurer, who has jurisdiction over the Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection branch of Ontario, revealed that he and others in public office had come to realize how important the effort of the motion picture industry had been during the war and what a share such companies as Twentieth Century Theatres, as part of that industry, had in charting the future.

Haskell Masters, speaking for the distributors, provided a humorous interlude and capped it with a serious appreciation of the founders of Twentieth Century theatres.

Among the speakers were Joseph Singer, K.C.; Arch H. Jolley, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario; and Harry Mandell, comptroller of Twentieth Century Theatres.

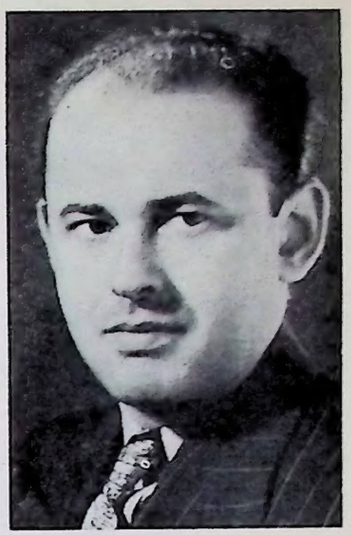
Congratulations to the company and its heads were offered by each speaker in the course of his address.

Because many of those present were from other parts of the province and had never seen most of the industry persons they had read about at one time or another, the latter were presented to the gathering.

Toronto Ballroom May Play Movies

The vast Queensway Ballroom, located in what was called the Palace Pier, at the mouth of the Humber River, has been enquiring about exhibition regulations with a view to showing movies as part of its entertainment. The place has a dance policy, with occasional name bands being booked in.

To Odeon



BILL FORMAN

He has been appointed to the head office booking staff of Odeon Theatres by Frank Fisher, chief booker and buyer. Recently of the Toronto branch of Empire-Universal, where he served in the same capacity, Bill succeeds Zeke Sheine, who resigned to join Allied Co-Operative Theatres.

A likeable lad, Bill Forman got into show business 17 years ago as an usher at the Astor Theatre, Toronto. In more recent years he was theatre manager for Firestone Enterprises, from which company he withdrew to enter the armed forces. After two years in the service he returned to civil life, joining the advertising department of Emp-u, then being promoted to the booking department.

Sydney Cohen Now Empire-U Booker

Sydney Cohen of Empire-Universal ad sales department has been switched to the booking staff of the Toronto branch, succeeding Bill Forman, who is now with Odeon Theatres.

Andy Sinclair, Cohen's assistant, moves into the spot vacated by the latter.

Technicolor Plans 30-40 British Pix

In an 18-month program Technicolor is planning to expand it's plant in Britain to handle 30 to 40 feature films annually, stated Natalie Kalmus recently in New York, before leaving for a four month trip to the United Kingdom.

Mrs. Kalmus, color director of Technicolor Motion Picture Corporation, also announced that Technicolor will be associated with British interests in the production in Spain of "Three Cornered Hat."

The strangest Jungle Drama ever filmed !!!

THE GREATEST BOX OFFICE SENSATION OF THE NATION !

WHITE PONGO

with
RICHARD FRASER
MARIS WRIXON
LIONEL ROYCE
AL EBEN

Now Available for Dating In All Key Situations!

Wire — Telephone or Write Your Nearest PRC Exchange !

PRC Pictures
H J ALLEN, PRES

TORONTO - MONTREAL
WINNIPEG - CALGARY
VANCOUVER - ST. JOHN

EXPLOITATION SPECIAL!

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 10, No. 40 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

Thousand and One Nights

with Cornel Wilde, Evelyn Keyes, Phil Silvers, Adele Jergens

Columbia 93 Mins.

LAVISH ROMANTIC FANTASY, SPIKED GENEROUSLY WITH COMEDY, IS CAT-NIP FOR FANS TODAY.

After years of comparative neglect, Fantasy appears to be riding high among Hollywood studios as a form of entertainment. Columbia's entry, "A Thousand and One Nights," is a richly-mounted production, sparkling in Technicolor hues, and filled with eye appeal, romance, plus good comedy relief.

Showmen who have been shouting from the housetops for footage devoid of war, weighty problems, and soul-stirring complexities, will find this version of Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp a complete gratification of their desires, and good boxoffice to boot. The picture is a riot of femme pulchritude, costumes and sets.

The capable and Adonis-like male lead is essayed by Cornel Wilde, ideally suited to his role as the vagabond who seeks and wins the hand of the Sultan's daughter, Adele Jergens, an eyeful if ever there was one. Laughs are supplied generously by Phil Silvers, Wilde's side-kick, and through crisp and comical dialogue and situations which never let the action sag into the overserious.

The plot is just knotty enough to preserve excitement and reflect the awful intrigue which audiences naturally associate with lands of turbans, veils and minarets. Fans know from the first title flashes that this is not anything of depth and consequence, and at all times the action is just good fun.

Cast as the Genie of the lamp is delightful Evelyn Keyes, and adding allure to the proceedings is Dusty Anderson, maid of the Princess. At times, the film is high satire. It is beautifully photographed throughout, with special effects noteworthy. Fans won't have to think at this film's showings. All they have to do is look to get their fill and money's worth. Alfred E. Green's direction is skilled.

CAST: Cornel Wilde, Evelyn Keyes, Phil Silvers, Adele Jergens, Dusty Anderson, Dennis Hoey, Philip Van Zandt, Gus Schilling, Nestor Paiva, Rex Ingram, Richard Hale, John Abbott, Murray Leonard, Carole Mathews, Pat Parrish, Shelley Winter.

CREDITS: Screenplay, Wilfred H. Pettitt, Richard English, Jack Henley; Original Story, Wilfred H. Pettitt; Director, Alfred E. Green.

DIRECTION, Skilled. PHOTOGRAPHY, Very Fine.

Bedside Manner

with John Carroll, Ruth Hussey, Charles Ruggles, Ann Rutherford

UA-Stone 79 Mins.

MILDLY ENTERTAINING COMEDY-ROMANCE WITH APPEAL LARGELY TO RUN-OF-TH-MINE FANS.

As entertainment, "Bedside Manner" can be described as mild. Neither of its two chief ingredients, romance and comedy, have enough potency to make much more than an agreeable compound. The love story is deficient in both logic and emotional appeal, and squares only ineffectually with the run of situations designed to beget laughs. That there are some of the latter is the film's saving grace, but these spring from virtual travesty and, at time, slapstick. Audiences that are satisfied with the shallower forms of amusement may find the attraction diverting.

Based on the Satevepost yarn by Robert Carson, the screenplay recounts the finding of romance by a pretty femme doctor when she stops over in her old home town, en route to Chicago. This role is played by Ruth Hussey in an aura of glamour rather than authenticity. Her patient, John Carroll, a test pilot for the aircraft plant located in the war-boom community, feigns a psychosis in order to win the Hussey heart.

The suitor's mock ailment is, additionally, a conspiracy between him and the girl's uncle, Charlie Ruggles, who is also a doctor, and who wants his practitioning niece to stick around the town because of the shortage of physicians. Ann Rutherford is injected into the proceedings to furnish a love triangle. The players get about all there is from the script, and from the dialogue which is generally dull.

Cast: John Carroll, Ruth Hussey, Charles Ruggles, Ann Rutherford, Claudia Drake, Renee Godfrey, Esther Dale, Grant Mitchell, Joel McGinnis, John James, Frank Jenks, Bert Roach, Vera Marsh, Sid Taylor, Earl Hodgins, Mary Currier, Constance Purdy, Mrs. Gardner Crane, Joe Devlin, Dimitrios Alexis, Don Brody.

CREDITS: Producer-Director, Andrew Stone; Associate Producer, Henry S. Kesler; Author, Robert Carson.

DIRECTION, Firm. PHOTOGRAPHY, Tip-Top.

The Last Hill

with Nikolai Kriuchkov, Marina Pastukhova

Artkino 84 Mins.

SOVIET FILM OF HEROIC DEFENSE OF SEVASTOPOL BASED ON AUTHENTIC NOVEL; WELL ACTED.

A story of courage and love of country brought to life from a compilation of "front-line dispatches" contained in a novel written by Boris Voyetekhov, has been excitingly revealed in this latest Russian import.

Despite several repetitious sequences, the film, shown with superimposed titles, moves at a rapid pace and offers a bit of friendly propaganda when one of the Russians, about to abandon Sevastopol, asks the commanding officer whether the report that the British had lost Singapore was true. Affirming this report, the officer replied that "the British, too, would one day return."

The fighting spirit and cameraderie, accented, via Alexander Zarkhi and Josef Heifitz' direction, are commendably portrayed by a group cast as sailors from the destroyer "Grozny."

CAST: Nikolai Kriuchkov, Marina Pastukhova, Boris Andreyev, Anton Khorava, Nikolai Dorokhin, Feodor Ischenko, Nikolai Gorlov, Evgeni Preov, Yegor Tkachuk, Zurab Lezhava.

CREDITS: Producer, Tbilisi Film Studios, Georgian S.S.R.; Directors, Alexander Zharki, Josef Heifitz; Cameraman, Arcady Kalzaty; Scenario, Boris Voyetekhov, Alexander Zharki, Josef Heifitz; Music, A. Balanchivadze; English Titles, Charles Clement.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Okay.

Winnipeg Theatre Manager Robbed

Two masked men, armed with revolvers, recently robbed Jack Proudlove, manager of the Gaiety Theatre, Winnipeg, Manitoba, of $1,073.

Proudlove was sitting in his office when the bandits entered and instructed him to crawl on his stomach to the cash vault and get the money for them.

"When I handed them the money," he said, "they made me crawl back to where I was and told me to shutup."

Anchors Aweigh

with Frank Sinatra, Gene Kelly, Kathryn Grayson, Jose Iturbi

MGM 140 Mins.

MUSICAL STUNNER IN TECHNICOLOR A FEAST OF ENTERTAINMENT; KELLY STEALS SHOW.

"Anchors Aweigh" gives MGM another musical that hits the top note. Once more caught in its most expansive mood, the studio has assembled a show that will stir audiences to an extreme pitch of enthusiasm. Everything that could possibly be crammed into a musical is in evidence in this production. With Producer Joe Pasternak at the helm, the offering, a Technicolor binge, sizes up as a gem of showmanship that adds further luster to his record as a maker of screen diversion of universal appeal. It is hard to think of an MGM musical excelling it. There is no reason why the film should not gain recognition as one of the year's best of it type.

The presence of Frank Sinatra and Jose Iturbi, representing opposite poles in musical taste, gives the attraction both mass and class drawing power. The crooner delivers himself of a couple of numbers by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne that are manna for the bobby-sockers, departing from his usual line once to take a fling at something high-class with a rendition of Brahms' lullaby, "Wiegenlied." Iturbi is at his most brilliant in a production number in which he plays Liszt's "Hungarian Rhapsody" backed by a battery of pianos. Further touches of class are contributed by the singing of Kathryn Grayson, whose best number is Tchaikovsky-Brent's "Waltz Serenade."

Potent drawing cards though they be, it isn't Sinatra and Iturbi who contribute most to the film. That honor goes to Gene Kelly.

The film, a dazzling visual treat directed uncommonly well by George Sidney from an Isobel Lennart script, reworks the yarn about a couple of gobs (Sinatra and Kelly) who find love in Hollywood.

CAST: Frank Sinatra, Kathryn Grayson, Gene Kelly, Jose Iturbi, Dean Stockwell, Pamela Britton, "Rags" Ragland, Billy Gilbert, Henry O'Neill, Carlos Ramirez, James Flavin, Edgar Kennedy, Grady Sutton.

CREDITS: Producer, Joe Pasternak; Director, George Sidney; Screenplay, Isobel Lennart; Suggested by story by Natalie Marcin.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Aces.

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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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"TOPS IN MELODRAMA"

"SWELL!"

"TOP-NOTCH!"

"SUSPENSE-PACKED!"

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Review

"The Strange Affair of Uncle Harry"

(*Universal-Charles K. Feldman*)

CHARLES K. FELDMAN has achieved a swell, top-notch, suspense-packed murder-melodrama in transferring "Uncle Harry," former Broadway stage play, to the screen. While considerable discussion is likely to result from the unusual ending, a contrived twist which enables romance to triumph where justice would have been frustrated and a guilty man permitted to escape punishment, exhibitors will most likely find their customers more satisfied with the happy ending of the film. It should score at the box office.

Producer Joan Harrison has turned in another excellent package of dramatic entertainment, which is tops in melodrama. Featured are George Sanders, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Ella Raines and Sara Allgood. Robert Siodmak's direction is splendid in unfolding the story of kind, easy-going Harry Quincy, who is deprived of happiness with the woman of his choice by the willful conniving of his young, invalid sister. Emphasis is on the sordid goings-on in the Quincy home, and tense, swift-paced drama is maintained throughout, despite a lack of action in the story.

Full credit must go to Stephen Longstreet for his fine screenplay, while Keith Winter adapted the Thomas Job play. Sanders turns in a grand performance as the mild-mannered Uncle Harry. The Quincys are the oldest family in the small New England town and Harry lives a rather sheltered existence with his two sisters, Miss Fitzgerald as the invalid and Moyna Maggill as an unhappy widow.

Harry falls in love with Miss Raines, New York fashion expert for the mill where Harry works, when she arrives at Corinth. Craig Reynolds as John Warren, owner of the mill, a widower with a child, is also in love with her, but Harry wins out. It is then that Miss Fitzgerald, seeing her very placid existence as an invalid threatened, starts her scheming to prevent the marriage of her brother to Miss Raines. She succeeds and when Harry discovers the truth, he is driven to kill her. By a miscarriage in his plan, his sister, Miss Maggill, is the victim of the poison, but Miss Fitzgerald is charged with the crime. It is an impossible situation since Miss Fitzgerald sees a way to make her brother suffer for the rest of his life by sacrificing herself, especially since Miss Fitzgerald has already decided to marry Warren. The script writers step in here and it develops that Harry only dreamed that he poisoned his sister. Miss Raines returns to him and they elope.

Others in the fine cast include Samuel S. Hinds, Harry von Zell, Ethel Griffies and Judy Clark. Milton H. Feld was executive producer. Miss Fitzgerald is properly perverse and effective and Miss Raines is appealing and attractive. Results are good in all departments.

Running time, 80 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Aug. 17

MILTON LIVINGSTON

The Strange Affair of

"UNCLE HARRY"

ANOTHER....

"EXCELLENT PACKAGE OF DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT"

FROM.

Empire-UNIVERSAL FILMS LTD

Little Gain in Dom'n '44 Take

(Continued from Page 1)

cluding the receipts secured both by motion picture houses and exhibitors using portable equipment, per capita expenditure in this field of entertainment averaged $5.61 in 1944, figures for the various provinces standing at $8.15 for British Columbia, $6.84 for Ontario, $6.73 for Nova Scotia, $5.35 for Alberta, $4.93 for Manitoba, $4.51 for New Brunswick, $4.26 for Quebec, $3.54 for Saskatchewan, and $3.41 for Prince Edward Island.

In addition to the above, there were 4 establishments operating in Canada in 1944 as legitimate theatres. These establishments offered 577 presentations of various kinds and had total paid admissions numbering 950,169. Revenue from the sale of tickets for such presentations was $998,942 with additional amusement taxes of $224,367.

Minor gains in receipts in 1944 compared with 1943 were reported by all provinces except New Brunswick where boxoffice returns declined by 1 per cent. Number of paid admissions increased only slightly in most provinces and declined 1 per cent in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia.

Results for the larger urban centres were not uniform. Boxoffice receipts gained 9 per cent in Montreal, 6 per cent in Toronto, and 1 per cent in Regina, but declined by 2 per cent in Halifax, 7 per cent in Sain John, 2 per cent in Winnipeg and 2 per cent in Edmonton. Vancouver receipts remained on a par with 1943.

Potential admissions to motion picture theatres in 1944 totalled 579,489,091, a figure which represents the maximum number of admissions possible if every performance of the program played to a full house in every theatre. The actual number of admissions reported in 1944 was 208,167,180, indicating that on the average only 35.9 per cent of the seating capacity was utilized at every performance. Corresponding ratios for earlier years were 35.7 per cent for 1943, 32.4 per cent for 1942, 31.0 per cent for 1941, and 30.0 per cent for 1940.

Itinerant operators were more numerous in 1944 than in 1943 and their receipts exceeded those of the previous year by $96,445. There were 116 exhibitors who used 16 mm. equipment and these had receipts of $286,008, collected amusement taxes amounting to $56,556 and reported 1,189,223 paid admissions. The 15 operators using 35 mm. portable equipment reported $51,217 receipts, $11,211 collected in amusement taxes and 233,190 admissions.

The Peephole's Choice

Jack Hunter, formerly Toronto branch manager of Paramount, gave quite a party at the Royal York recently on the occasion of the 25th wedding anniversary of he and the Mrs. About 80 persons were present and among them, unknown, wandered Comedian Sammy Sales in the garb of a member of the hotel staff and doing his "Crazy Waiter" routine. This consists of waiting on certain guests who are driven to a frenzy by the inept and clumsy conduct of Sales. A request for peas or potatoes causes him to bring a handful out of a pocket. That's the sort of thing he does. Naturally, there are a few who are in on the gag at the beginning and the rest learn about it later. It's Sammy's favorite routine, even if he has to duck occasionally. Hunter was telling the lads about the havoc caused by Sales and it's even funny to hear about. Jack, incidentally, invited his former staff at Paramount to a cocktail party in his home, returning its kindness in presenting him with a gift when he left . . . John Grierson was in Toronto last week and his presence caused conjecture about his future. It is said that he, along with several of his key men, will found a cinema centre that will cater to the needs of Britain, Canada and the USA. It is known that the National Film Board will continue the Canada Carries On series and Grierson is anxious the government film agency maintain its progress. No successor to him has been named . . . Bea Pacaud, Rexy, Ottawa, one of Ontario's few lady managers, will be honeymooning one of these days, now that her boy friend is back from overseas.

* * *

Interesting Marriage

An international marriage of considerable interest to the local film colony took place recently when Somer James and Jean Smith were married in Great Britain.

Somer was with Premier Operating's advertising department prior to joining the merchant marine several years ago. Jean, who served in the British CWACs, is the daughter of Sam Smith, head man of British Lion, and popular in this Dominion.

I ran a "blind" item about it recently and it caused many enquiries.

* * *

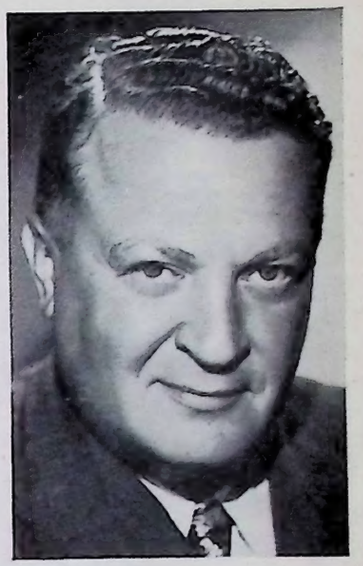
Babble, Babble, Black Sheep

Some time in October The Lobster, that excellent and interesting eating place in the shadows of Famous Players, will begin a floor show policy at a la carte prices. Jackie Lewis, who has considerable local renown as producer and composer, will handle the show, an 1890 revue to begin with. The Lobster should provide some enjoyable hours . . . A statement which made theatre men perk up and wonder was contained in the judgment of Justice Urquhart, who turned down an application of the City of Toronto that restrictions at Yonge and Snowden be modified to permit the building of a theatre. Residents of Snowden opposed the City's application. Stated the judgment: "Also there being another theatre close by, the community is well served and I see no necessity for a second so close.". . . Izzy Goldstein, formerly booker in the Winnipeg RKO office, is now in the Toronto branch. He was overseas for five years, beginning in 1939. Succeeding him in Winnipeg is Hector Ross, also recently of the service . . . RKO really loosened its ad department purse strings for its Henreid-Maureen O'Hara-Slezak Technicolor prize, "The Spanish Main." Magazines carrying "Main" ads have a total circulation of 66,252,345, and the Canadian periodicals, seven leading ones, represent 1,922,733 of the total . . . Harland Rankin, Tilbury exhib, is quite a yachtsman and was recently presented with a Lazy Susan—whatever that is—for doing so much to help the regatta of the Erieau Yacht Club . . . Pete Egan, Calgary's pride and joy in the sporting and theatrical colony, recently attained his 61st birthday—which was at the same time the day of his 31st wedding anniversary. Keep punching, Pete.

Blumenstock in Einfeld's Spot

(Continued from Page 1)

Formerly director of advertising and publicity in the east, Blumenstock will continue to make his headquarters in New York under the new arrangement. Alex Evelove remains as



MORT BLUMENSTOCK

studio publicity director in Hollywood with greatly enlarged duties.

Warners' new ad-pub chief started in the motion picture industry as an advertising copy writer for First National Pictures in 1922. He came to Warner Brothers in 1931 to take charge of advertising and publicity for the company's circuit of 500 theatres. In 1936, when Einfeld shifted his headquarters to the studio Blumenstock moved from the subsidiary to the parent company to take over all eastern publicity.

Canada Joins in Gershwin Tribute

Canada will join in a tribute to George Gershwin, for Warner Brothers "Rapsody in Blue," with a concert over the coast-to-coast network of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

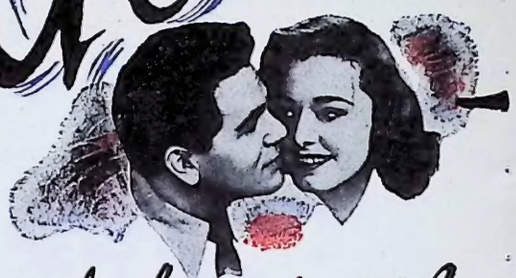
USA Building Ban Ends October 15

USA government restrictions on all commercial construction will be lifted on October 15th, which means that theatre expansion on that side of the border will get under way.

Price controls over building materials will be tightened and attempts will be made to prevent hoarding.

Warners' glorious

Pride of the



One of the best of all love
-and best of all it's true

If You think

run a story

warmth and more

—tell it to the

Marines

stories

starring

JOHN GARFIELD

ELEANOR PARKER • DANE CLARK

Directed by
DELMER DAVES
Screen Play by Albert Maltz
Adaptation by Marvin Borowsky

Produced by
JERRY WALD
From a Book by Roger Butterfield • Music by Franz Waxman

HERE IT IS!

SPECIAL CANADIAN FOOTAGE SEE PICTURE AND PRESS BOOK FOR DETAILS

You've ever with more heart than this Marines!!

Johnston Succeeds Will Hays

WILL HAYS

Canada Also Owes Will Hays a Debt of Gratitude for What He Has Done to Elevate the Motion Picture

RETIREMENT of Will H. Hays, after 23 years as president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America brings to an end an historic era in the motion picture industry and marks the beginning of a journey on a greater and broader road leading to greatness yet unknown.

Hays resigned as postmaster-general of the United States to lead the motion picture industry through comparitively severe self-regulation in order to make movies acceptable to many and worthy of the support of the clergy and church-goers as entertainment.

He was eminently suited to his task, being prominent in such organizations as the National Council of Boy Scouts, of which he was a vice-president, and the Citizens' Committee of the Salvation Army. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

A member of the Indiana bar, he became chairman of the Republican National Committee in 1921 and holds membership in many public service and business organizations. His rule over the industry was not always smooth and at present two companies, United Artists and Warner Brothers, have withdrawn from membership in the MPPDA because of conflict arising out of his policies.

He will remain in an advisory capacity to Johnston at a salary of $100,000 per year—$50,000 cut annually.

Eric Johnson, successor to Hays, will get, it is reported, $150,000 per year and an annual expense allowance of $50,000. He will remain president of two large American electrical contracting firms. The handsome 49-year-old president of the American Chamber of Commerce has been, during his career, a newsboy, reporter, longshoreman and vacuum-cleaner salesman. He holds a law degree, lives in Spokane, Washington, and was a Marine captain during the last war.

He will drop the Chamber of Commerce job, which he held since 1942, at the end of his present term. He believes in co-operation with the government, labor and other countries. He is, in fact, considered somewhat "radical" in his point of view by old-guard business men. His personality and attitude are in keeping with Hollywood's new task, that of spreading the motion picture to millions of new patrons throughout the world, such films to offend neither domestic or foreign racial, religious and political groups, and at the same time preach democracy.

Francis S. Harmon, coordinator of the USA War Activities Committee since its inception, was named a vice-president of the MPPDA and has resigned from his WAC post to take charge of the New York offices of the association. Joseph I. Breen, who continues in charge of the production code administration was also formally named a vice-president.

REVIEWING his own relationship to the industry since he came into it, the retiring president stated:

"Be sure that my intense interest in the motion picture industry will continually increase. I know its capabilities; and furthermore no man can give almost a quarter of a century to a cause without its becoming an integral part of him.

"It has been a privilege to have been intimately associated with the destinies of a form of communication that I truly believe to be of immeasurable usefulness in universal entertainment, information and education. To all those who have so greatly aided us along an ever upward, but sometimes not too easy road, I can predict that both quality of pictures and of audience appreciation will continue steadily to climb, and I can assure them of the certain progress of every artistic, cultural and social gain that time has brought.

"Through the years there has been continuity of support from those within the industry for all that was importantly constructive, as there has been from public leaders— interested in the public good. That it is of universal concern to the people of the land which gave it birth is one of the greatest assets of the American motion picture.

"Whatever degree of success has accompanied my own endeavor has been largely due to the united teamwork of the members of the board of the association, its officers and staff, and devoted industry leaders and trade press, all of whom have labored unselfishly in behalf of the progress of the screen. The industry's unique achievement in self-regulation; the amazing technological progress which has given

(Continued on Page 15)

ERIC JOHNSTON

IA in Saskatoon Absorbs Rival

(Continued from Page 1)

Labor is associated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations, while the IATSE holds membership in the opposition group, the American Federation of Labor.

The move, one of a number in the past year, ends dual unionism in every province but Quebec. Operating under a government charter, non-IATSE projectionists outnumber those of that union in Quebec. The IATSE charges that its rival is a company union and, with the end of dual unionism elsewhere in the Dominion, Covert announces that his organization will now concentrate on Quebec.

The Saskatoon agreement affected seven members who worked in two theatres, the Daylight and Capitol, both out of the IA for 13 years. The signing of both these Famous Players houses will bring the membership of the Saskatoon Local to 25.

The IATSE has withdrawn its road call from the theatres. Under it stagehands travelling with road shows were forbidden to work in the theatres, making it difficult to play in them. The Capitol has an excellent stage.

Stars of 'Tangier'

Maria Montez, Sabu, Louise Allbriton and Preston Foster will play the leading roles in Universal's "Tangier," with Reginald Denny in a top supporting part.

Hanifen, NS Vet, Retires at 80

(Continued from Page 1)

business obligations he was manager of the Garrick.

Hanifen—or "P.J.", as he is known—came to the Garrick 11 years ago for Famous Players, which operated the theatre then.

Prior to his accepting the management of the Garrick Hanifen was chairman of the Nova Scotia Board of Censors for a number of years. It was during his tenure that sound came in and his was the first censorship office to buy a movieola, a machine that can censor words from the film.

The methods and regulations of censorship, as drawn up by Hanifen, attracted international interest and enquiries came in through the Canadian High Commissioner in London for Spain, Portugal, France and other countries.

The popular veteran discovered his talent for acting in Halifax in the 1880s and during his years on the legitimate stage appeared all through eastern United States, sharing the boards with some of the greatest.

Erect, keen-eyed and sharp-witted, Pat Hanifen is still an interesting person to know and learn from.

RKO Psycho-Mystery

Lawrence Tierney, star of "Dillinger," will play the starring male role in RKO's psychological mystery, "Deadlier than the Male."

OVER 21

times more hilarious than any comedy you've ever laughed at...

COLUMBIA

OVER 21 TIMES FUNNIER THAN

PICTURES
presents

Irene DUNNE

Alexander KNOX

Charles COBURN

OVER 21

A SIDNEY BUCHMAN Production

Adapted from the play by Ruth Gordon
Screenplay by Sidney Buchman

Directed by CHARLES VIDOR

COLUMBIA PICTURES

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS!

THE BROADWAY STAGE PLAY!

DATE

OVER 21

. . . and *you* pick up the marbles!

Falconer is NFB Chief in Ontario

(Continued from Page 1)

comes to the Ontario post after several months in Ottawa. He joined the NFB upon his discharge from the RCAF.

Noel Bates, who was in charge of the Toronto office of the board for the past year and a half, has been promoted from provincial supervisory work to the liaison staff in Ottawa. He will make arrangements for the sponsorship, by government departments, of films for which there is a need.

Falconer comes to the National Film Board with an outstanding war record as a flying officer in the Atlantic Ferry Command. He was also a paratroop pilot in planes that dropped troops into France on D-Day. He will endeavor to further the expansion of the provincial film office, which has grown rapidly in the past year.

One of Falconer's chief objectives in the next few months is getting out films on the problems of rehabilitation, particularly to aid civilians in understanding the point of view of ex-servicemen. A second immediate task is the provision of film support for the National Clothing Collection Campaign on behalf of UNRRA, aimed at relieving distress in Europe. This work is already underway with a specially produced NFB film, "Friends in Need," already in the hands of Ontario field representatives.

The National Film Board intends building up well-stocked libraries in Ontario with films on current peacetime issues so that service groups may have access to useful non-theatrical films on such urgent questions as housing, health, community planning and national and international projects for social improvement.

Hal Wallis' Picture

Van Heflin will play the male lead opposite Barbara Stanwyck and Lisbeth Scott in Hal Wallis' "Love Lies Bleeding," for Paramount release.

Ginger and Pierre

Ginger Rogers and Pierre Aumont are co-starring in RKO's "Heartbeat," with Adolphe Menjou and Basil Rathbone in support.

'Little Women' Again

"Little Women" may be remade in Technicolor by David O. Selznick. It was originally made 13 years ago at RKO with Katherine Hepburn and Joan Bennet starring.

JOHNSTON AND HAYS

(Continued from Page 10)

us sound, spoken words, music, color and fine-grain film; the development in the artistry of story-telling which has resulted in an all-encompassing program of screen entertainment and a corresponding increase in world-wide audience appreciation—all these advances have come from the vision, the labor, and the collaboration of the executives, producers, distributors, exhibitors, writers, artists, artisans and technicians with whom it has been one of the great privileges of my life to be intimately associated.

"I am thinking also today in a very special sense of the men and women—both individuals and groups through the nation—whose devoted interest has been continuous in the effort to accomplish the association's purpose, set forth in its articles of incorporation March 11, 1922: 'Establishing and maintaining the highest picture production by developing the educational as well as the entertainment value and the general usefulness of the motion picture.' From that day to the present moment, thousands of our friends in schools, churches, libraries, women's clubs, in art, literary, social and economic groups, in national and community organizations—all leaders in the public welfare and cultural life of America—have steadfastly believed in our objectives and have strengthened our hands in all which we have been able to accomplish.

Hays also paid tribute to his successor, saying:

"It is satisfying, indeed, to be able to transfer to such splendidly capable shoulders responsibilities carried for so many busy and constructive years.

"Eric Johnston needs no praise of mine. His ability shines in the light of his accomplishments. Sure of his capabilities for both leadership and service, we of the industry are confident and content to place in his hands the throttle—and the brake."

JOHNSTON explained his interest in the film industry in a statement issued when he took over his new duties.

"I have been attracted to the motion picture industry," he said, "because it offers unlimited opportunities to work for peace and prosperity at home and abroad. These are the two goals for which all mankind yearns today.

"The motion picture has been aptly described as the greatest way of telling a story ever devised by man. In a relatively short period of development, the film has become a medium of mass entertainment and enlightenment, unique in world history. Its appeal is universal. Its potential power for good is only matched by its potential power for evil.

"In the field of adult education and specifically in the re-training of the veterans and war workers, there is a limitless opportunity for the motion picture. In the factories, better management-labor relations can be promoted through the films."

THE board of directors of the MPPDA passed the following resolution in tribute to Will Hays upon his retirement:

"Whereas, since the founding of this Association on March 11, 1922, Will H. Hays has been continuously its President and distinguished leader, and

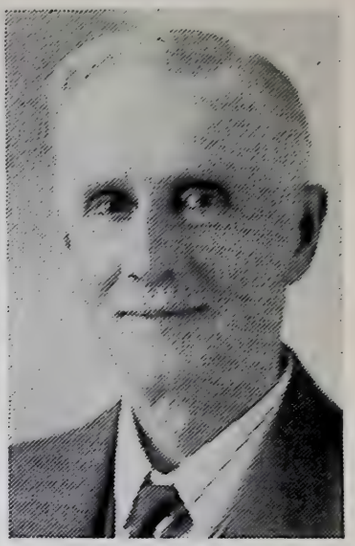
"Whereas, during the life of this Association the American motion picture has grown to a maturity and attained a world influence which is universally recognized, and

"Whereas, under the leadership of Will H. Hays this Association in behalf of the entire moving picture industry has, by the establishment and administration of the Motion Picture Production Code, held up for the industry the highest moral and artistic standards and through the practice of self-regulation by the industry has earned for this great medium of expression—the motion picture—that freedom which it so largely enjoys in the United States, and

"Whereas, Mr. Hays has been unfaltering in his devotion to the highest ideals of the motion picture and by his unremitting efforts has served the industry faithfully and well,

"Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that this Association accepts with profound regret Mr. Hays' decision to cease active executive services to it but the Association takes great satisfaction in the knowledge that his successor and the Board of Directors of the Association may be able to draw upon his rich experience and may continue to benefit by his wise counsel in dealing with the tasks and problems of the days to come."

Retires



P. J. HANIFEN

Veteran Maritimes theatre figure and manager of the Garrick, Halifax, who retired recently after spending 60 of his 80 years in show business.

American Citation Won by David Niven

Lt. Col. David Niven has been decorated with the American Legion of Merit, it is reported.

The film star is one of only 25 members of the British army who have received the American citation, among them being Field Marshals Montgomery and Alexander.

Two New Pix at WB

Two motion pictures now in production at Warner Brothers are "Dancing With Tears," with Faye Emerson, Zachary Scott, Janis Paige and Howard Smith, and 'The Verdict," with Sydney Greenstreet, Peter Lorre and Joan Lorring

Big Campaign For 'Night in Paradise'

Biggest advertising campaign ever given a film in Canada will be put on for "Night in Paradise," Walter Wanger's new spectacular Technicolor production, it is announced by Empire-Universal Films Limited, who will release the picture.

Advertisements will appear in all the following nationally circulated magazines: Canadian Home Journal, Chatelaine, MacLeans, New World, National Home Monthly, Liberty and Toronto Star Weekly.

Turhan Bey and Merle Oberon are the stars of the picture with Thomas Gomez, Gale Sondergaard, Ernest Truex and Jerome Cowan in leading supporting roles.

Third Dimension Pix Possibility

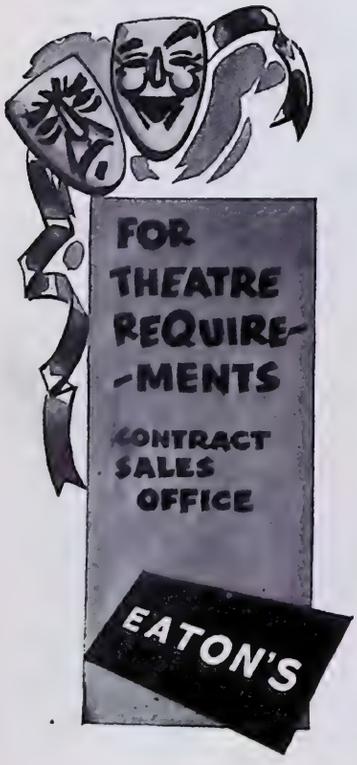
Third-dimensional motion picture projection in natural color is close to becoming a reality, according to J. Z. Deninson, USA scientist, who has patented a camera and a projector that will eliminate flatness from the screen.

With his machine it is possible to project pictures at high frequency and in color, while using black-and-white film at the usual speed of 18 inches per second, he says. Screen images are in true focus, like objects viewed with the eye in natural surroundings, while natural color appearance is created through the use of light color spectrum in projection.

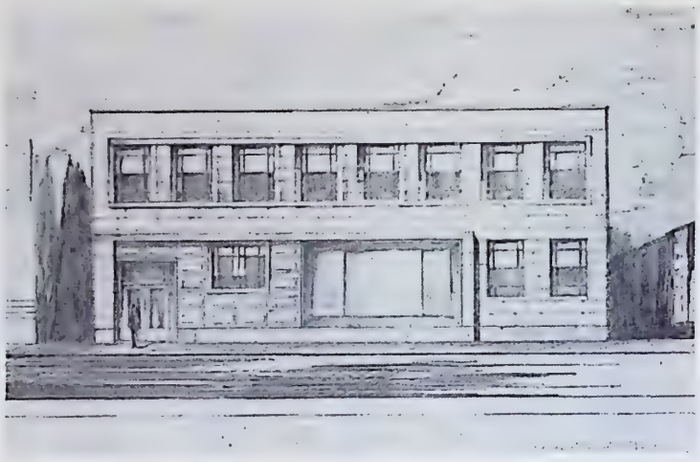
No sprocket holes are necessary in the film and 150 frames can be run through at the standard speed instead of the usual 24.

Experimenting with third dimension since 1930, the scientist states that the monostereoscope method, which he used successfully to develop a machine that gives automatic prescriptions for lenses in eye glasses, is adaptable to motion pictures. He claims that using this method it will be possible to film a scene with a single negative and obtain the third dimensional effect.

The monostereoscope can be adapted to present cameras with little difficulty, Deninson believes, and his projector is simple enough to make its manufacture inexpensive.



Columbia's New Quarters



An architect's drawing of the front of the Albion Building at 72 Carlton Street, Toronto, which opened for business on September 24th as the new head offices of Columbia Pictures, Theatre Holding Corporation and Premier Operating Company. H. G. Duerr is the architect.

Hitchinson Served In Many Theatres

Veteran theatre man who retired some time ago as manager of the Strand Theatre, Hamilton, Ontario, passed away recently at the age of 59.

HAROLD HITCHINSON

A member of Famous 25-year club, Hitchinson was born in Toronto and was appointed to his first responsible theatre industry post as assistant manager of the Queen City's Strand Theatre in 1916.

He was associated with Famous Players houses in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes during his career and served at seven different theatres in Toronto as well as three in Hamilton.

Hitchinson was unmarried and he is survived by a sister and three brothers.

Sequel to 'Claudia'

Gene Tierney and Cornel Wilde will be co-starred by 20th Century-Fox in "Claudia and David," a sequel to "Claudia."

Wolfe, Goldstone In Silk Screen Biz

Aaron Wolfe, formerly of the PRC sales staff, and Mervin Goldstone, who was head booker for Esquire before joining the RCAF several years ago, have purchased the silk screen plant of Kirk Dial Company and will be operating it at 7 Renfrew Place.

Monogram Special

Johnny Mack Brown will star in "Rollin' Along," a Monogram special.

'Rio De Janeiro'

Tito Guizar will be starred by Republic Pictures in "Rio De Janiero."

'Scotland Yard' Pic

Sir Aubrey Smith and Erich Von Stroheim play the leading roles in Republic's "Scotland Yard Investigator."

Well Again

WIN BARRON

Paramount's promotion representative, who is also commentator for its Canadian newsreel, is back at work after an illness of several weeks.

NFB CCO Series To Be Continued

Although the latest Canada Carries On, "Music in the Wind", seems at first glance to be a radical departure from the usual trend of the CCO series, it can hardly be said that a new leaf is being turned over in the policy of the National Film Board.

This film, which has as its theme the making of an organ in Canada would seem, and is, a far cry from the wartime fare of films showing Canada's home and overseas part in the war, which would suggest some prefabricated "peacetime policy." It is, rather, a continuance of a policy which has been part of the film board since its inception —that of representing contemporary Canadian thought and action.

NFB, as its name implies, is a national body, reflecting the composite mood of the people of Canada, and its productions will necessarily be colored by that national mood. We are now entering an era of peace, and Canadians are turning their thoughts away from wartime topics after neatly six-weary years. "Music in the Wind" is a first film indication of this.

During the war, such films as "Headline Hunters," the story of how a waiting Canada got the news fresh from the battlefronts through the media of radio, screen and newspaper; "Ordeal By Ice," the tale of secret Army manoeuvers in the Canadian Rockies thrillingly filmed; and "Zero Hour," a film board scoop on the invasion of France, all reflected the mood of a Canada at war.

Today, such films as "Music in the Wind" mirror a happier mood of a Canada turning her eyes inward searching out her own possibilities to best suit her for her role in the peace.

Planet Pictures Finish First 16 mm. Film

Planet Pictures, Incorporated Hollywood has completed its first 16 mm. feature production, "Jeep Herders," after a year of organization. The picture was filmed in Kodachrome and runs 59 minutes.

It stars June Carlson and was co-produced and directed by Richard Talmadge and Harvey Perry.

Plans are to produce twelve 16 mm. features during the next year, as well as a number of shorts. The company is setting up its own distribution outlets and will make its films available to all 16 mm. markets.

"Where've You Been All My Life . . . Beautiful?"

"Three days ago I didn't know you existed"... But into those 72 high-speed hours they crowded everything that makes life a little more exciting ... love a little more breathless!

Robert (*"Princess O'Rourke"*) **Cummings**

Lizabeth Scott

Don (*"The Affairs of Susan"*) **DeFore**

In HAL WALLIS' Production

"You Came Along"

with

Charles Drake • Julie Bishop

KIM HUNTER • HELEN FORREST

Directed by John Farrow • A Paramount Picture

LIZABETH SCOTT
Sultry-voiced—aloof—alluring. She's someone new with something different.

Fire Prevention Week Oct. 7-13

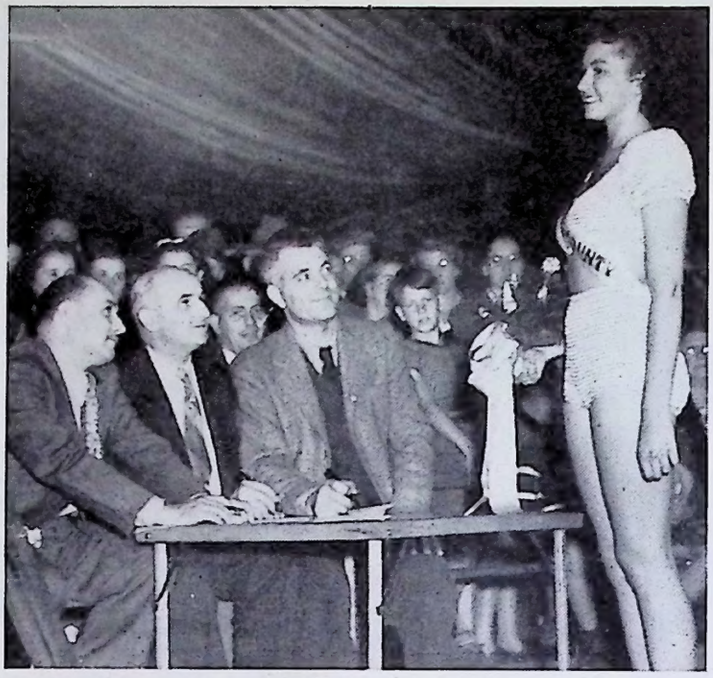
For the first time in six long years, Fire Prevention Week will be observed under peace-time instead of war-time conditions. During that period, the world has seen the use of fire as a major weapon of war. It was the endeavour of both sides to reduce the other side's ability to wage war by the destruction by fire of his war plants and at the same time every effort was made in the homeland to prevent such destruction. In the end, the Allies by reason of vastly superior war materials, won out.

But have we won the fight against the fire demon here at home? Recent holocausts have indicated that we have not. The destruction by fire of one of the Great Lakes passenger boats, the burning of a famous Muskoka summer resort, and the near annihilation of that great Eastern Canadian port of Halifax show us very forcibly that as a nation we have not yet learned to be careful with fire. The fact that there was so small a loss of life in these conflagrations—one fatality in the Halifax explosions—was indeed providential. There could quite easily have been many more.

In spite of the efforts of fire prevention and fire protection officials throughout Canada, fire losses jumped from slightly more than 24½ million dollars in 1939 to over 40 million dollars in 1944. It is quite true that the values at risk in the latter year were far in excess of those in 1939 but it is also a fact that every effort was being put forth to conserve our resources for the war. In spite of those efforts, this country saw a mounting fire loss year after year. Now that hostilities have ended, let us hope that there will not be a repetition of events following the last great war when between 1919 and 1922 fire losses jumped from 25 millions to 54 millions in property damage alone.

There seems to be a general feeling that now that the war is over, something akin to a Utopia will be reached. We may not exactly attain that goal and we certainly will not if we permit life and propertly to be destroyed at the appalling rate which has been reached in recent years. It would seem that the world is waiting to make a fresh start in many phases of its existence. Fire Prevention Week this year offers an excellent opportunity to intensify our efforts in the prevention of fire in our homes, schools, places of business and factories. It only remains for us to keep in mind that we are going to be careful of fire from now on.

Judge Beauty Contest



In Woodstock, Ontario, recently the Rotary Club held a beauty contest to find "Miss Oxford County." Sam Glazier, 20th Century-Fox' public relations representative and Arch Jolley, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, along with Phil Burman of Toronto, acted as judges. Their choice was Patricia McKanney, 16, of Tillsonburg.

The judges acted in the final night only and 6,200 paid to see them pick Miss McKanney in the local arena. She was presented with a prize of $100 by Sterling Campbell, who acted as master of ceremonies.

The judges, Jolley and Glazier, are shown above reaching a decision.

Roy Tash, Jack Chisholm and Russ Donaldson shot the doings in 35 mm. for showing at Woodstock and Tillsonburg theatres. Presence of the ASN men caused considerable excitement and they signed many autographs.

Proceeds went to the Crippled Children's Fund, a Rotary endeavor.

First Fall Meeting Of Eastern MPTAO

Eastern Division (Ottawa) of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, launched its fall program of activities at a recent luncheon meeting in the Chateau Laurier.

Among those present were: Morris Berlin, Somerset; Henry Marshall, Regent; Isser Singerman, Imperial; Gordon Beavis, Centre; Beatrice Pacaud, Rexy; Sam Hobsher, Nola; Angelo Stevens, Rideau, Ottawa; Stan McNeil, Capitol, Smith's Falls; Louis Gauthier, Cartier, Hull; and R. Turnbull and Jack Hewson of Dominion Sound Equipment, Toronto.

Arch. H. Jolley of Toronto spoke briefly on the activities and future plans of the association. It is planned to hold monthly meetings of the Eastern Division throughout the fall and winter.

Bowery Boy Series

First of Monogram's new Bowery Boy series will be "Stepping Around," starring Leo Gorcey and Huntz Hall.

'Wilson' Wins Award

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Wilson," starring Alexander Knox, has won the Boxoffice blue ribbon award for August.

Bogart-Bacall Again

Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall will be teamed by Warner Brothers for the third time in "Tomorrow is Another Day."

Hope's Female Lead

Joan Caulfield has been given the female lead in Paramount's Bob Hope starrer, "Monsieur Boncaire."

Team Lupino, Flynn

Ida Lupino and Errol Flynn will be teamed at Warner Brothers in "Stallion Road."

Toronto Educat'l Group Pans Pix

Theatre men in Toronto are certainly willing to co-operate fully in providing proper entertainment for children's Saturday shows, stated Arch. H. Jolley, on behalf of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, speaking before the special committee on recreation of the Toronto Board of Education.

"There exists a drastic shortage of moving picture films which are suitable for children," he added. "But in spite of this, I challenge any member of the board to look over previous Saturday billings. These alone will prove that Toronto theatre managers are co-operating," he said.

When the trustees brought up the much-discussed film on the life of the bandit Dillinger, Jolley pointed out that it had not been banned by the government's censor board. Advertisement of the film, pointing out that it was not recommended for children under 16 years of age, was found to bring out larger numbers of children than if it had been billed as a children's picture, he declared.

The MPTAO's secretary told the board that neighborhood theatres are always glad to advise parents whether or not films being shown are suitable for children. From the point of view of fire hazard he described Ontario's theatres as the safest places of entertainment on the continent.

"Motion picture people are a fine upstanding group who are definitely interested in the welfare of the community," said Jolley. "And those connected with the industry in Toronto are very willing to work with the Board of Education," he emphasised.

Trustee Mrs. Edna Blois urged that more theatres should organize movie clubs for boys and girls with special programs for Saturday shows. One Toronto house has already adopted the idea and Jolley stated that other theatres in the city were considering this plan.

A thorough survey of recreation in Toronto as related to the schools under the jurisdiction of the board is being made by the special committee.

Langford Starrer

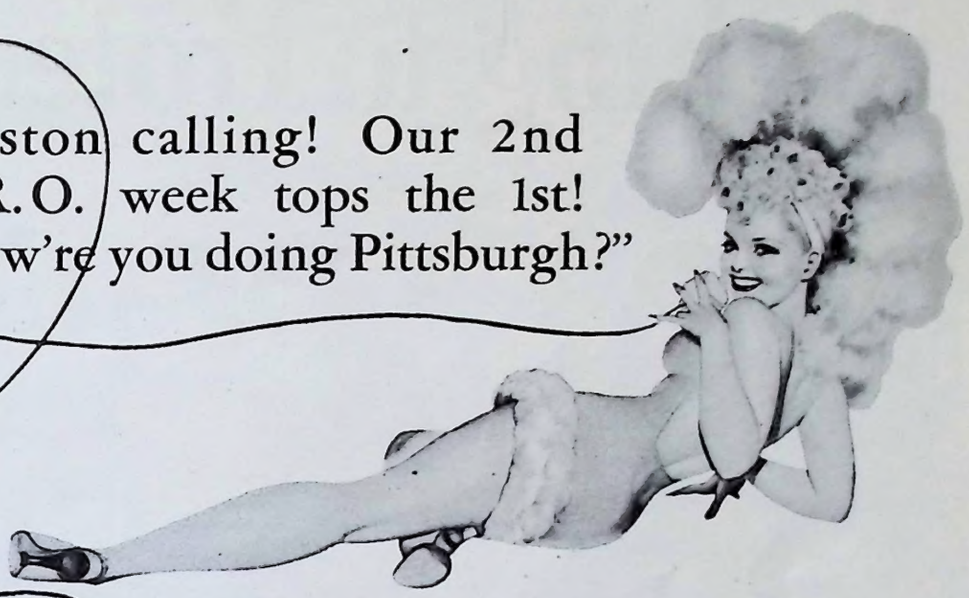
Frances Langford plays the title role in "The Bamboo Blonde," for RKO release.

Feitel Quits Fox

Chester Feitel has resigned as manager of 20th Century-Fox's national promotion department.

A TALE OF TWO CITIES!

"Boston calling! Our 2nd S.R.O. week tops the 1st! How're you doing Pittsburgh?"



"Pittsburgh terrific! Never anything like it! And the advance sale sets new high!"

M·G·M's TECHNICOLOSSAL

ZIEGFELD FOLLIES

ROAD-SHOW HISTORY AT $2.40 TOP!

They have literally
Nothing to Protect Them

WHAT CAN YOU SPARE THAT THEY CAN WEAR ?

MISTER MANAGER, will you tell their story to your patrons? Contribute yourself, collect for them, help others gather the things these countless thousands in war-torn lands need so badly. Don't delay. Pitch in now.

NATIONAL CLOTHING COLLECTION

OCTOBER 1 to 20

CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE WAR SERVICES COMMITTEE

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